

	CWC Identified Challenge/Issue	AB 2216 Mandate?	CFSR Program Improvement Plan Item?	Existing Initiatives?
1	Funding flexibility and coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enabling the State and counties to use funding more flexibly and in a coordinated fashion across multiple funding streams, such as child welfare, Medi-Cal, alcohol and drug treatment funds, and mental health funding, in order to meet the multiple needs of children, youth and families at risk of or involved with the child welfare system. 	Section 16540(a) <i>Ensuring that all state child welfare, foster care and judicial funding and services for children, youth and families is, to the greatest extent possible, coordinated to eliminate fragmentation and duplication of services provided to children or families who would benefit from integrated multiagency services.</i>	May indirectly impact (inconsistent) array and availability of services, a likely PIP item.	Title IV-E Child Welfare Waiver Demonstration Project.
2	Access to substance abuse services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that children, youth and families at risk of and involved with the child welfare system have access to culturally sensitive substance abuse services. 	Section 16540(d) <i>Increasing collaboration and coordination between county agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and the courts.</i>	May be included in a PIP finding associated with inconsistent array and availability of services This is also likely to affect data indicator on reunification. Timely access to services is important in returning children as well as preventing reentry.	Federal Initiative to fund innovative strategies to address methamphetamine abuse impacts on child welfare system – 5 California counties participating. Dependency Drug Court SIT workgroup on AOD issues is charged with working between state agencies to increase services for families common to our systems.
3	Access to mental health services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that children, youth and families at risk of and involved with the child welfare system have access to culturally sensitive mental health services. 	Section 16540(d) <i>Increasing collaboration and coordination between county agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and the courts.</i>	May be included in a PIP finding associated with inconsistent array and availability of services This is also likely to affect data indicator on reunification. Timely access to services is important in returning children as well as preventing reentry.	Mental Health Services Act SB 785 - New law mandating mental health services for foster children and youth placed outside county of origin

4	K-12 education/postsecondary education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that children and youth remain enrolled at their school when they are placed out-of-home or face placement moves; that their education records are not lost and units are transferred when enrolled in a new school; that they receive the support and services they need to succeed at school; that school staff is trained to ensure that foster children and youth are not treated differently than other students; and that there are adults working with foster youth early on to determine whether they will be attending college to ensure that their course of study meets minimum college entry requirements and are able to access Federal postsecondary student assistance programs and supports. 	Section 16540(d) <i>Increasing collaboration and coordination between county agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and the courts.</i>	Not anticipated	Foster Youth Services Guardian Scholarship Program
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5	Data sharing and tracking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Allowing for linking data and information across major child serving systems and the courts for the purposes of aggregate information to inform program development and planning and at the individual level to ensure that children, youth and families receive the supports and services they require.</i> 	<u>Section 16540(h)</u> <i>Developing data and information sharing agreements and protocols for the exchange of aggregate data across program and court systems that are providing services to children and families in the child welfare system...</i>	CWS/CMS and data results seen as strength: anticipate need to improve sharing and use across agencies (CDSS has MOU with DMH for data sharing)	Center for Social Services Research/UC Berkley UC Davis Report State interagency MOUs for specific purposes San Francisco Shared Youth Database
6	Transition Age Youth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ensuring that youth emancipating from the foster care system have financial literacy skills (savings and assets), access to employment and career preparation, housing, independent living skills, personal and social assets, K-12 education, and permanency.</i> 	<u>Section 16540(m)</u> <i>Coordinating available services for former foster youth and improving outreach efforts to those youth and their families.</i>	Not anticipating "former FY" PIP item. Recent federal Chaffee regulations focus on addressing and tracking progress of transitioning youth	National Governor's Association Initiative/ Independent Living Program Redesign Expansion of the Transitional Housing Program-Plus California Connected by 25 Initiative –seven California counties participating Gateway Project –Links emancipating foster youth to education and training and entry level jobs in biotech – five counties participating
7	Inter-county transfers of children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ensuring that foster children and youth placed outside their counties of jurisdictions receive the services and supports they need.</i> 	N/A	May be included as a factor impacting consistent array of services, a likely PIP item	SB 758 – New law mandating mental health services for foster children and youth placed outside county of origin

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8	Early intervention & prevention including early reunification services/diversion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that families have access to services and supports in the community either to reduce their risk for becoming involved with the child welfare system or to ensure early reunification with their children. 	N/A	Not anticipated	<p>Differential Response – pilot project expanding by voluntary implementation in many counties.</p> <p>Linkages Project, which coordinates services for families served by both child welfare and TANF.</p> <p>Fatherhood Involvement Study works with families in need of services through Family Resource Centers to increase the involvement of fathers. Has evaluation component and has good preliminary results.</p> <p>Family Development Matrix is a tool used by Family Resource Centers and Cobs to assess Differential Response Path One families and help them receive appropriate services.</p> <p>Early Childhood Project/ Stuart Foundation</p>
9	Disproportionate representation of minorities in child welfare system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing the significant difference in the rates at which children and youth of color (particularly Black and Native American children and youth) are reported to the child welfare system and the reasons why children and youth of color receive fewer services while in out-of-home care, are less likely to find a permanent home, and are less prepared for adulthood when they leave the system. 	N/A	Not anticipating a specific PIP item, but this is a national issue	<p>California Disproportionality Project funded by Casey Family programs to address this issue in selected counties and roll out to others</p> <p>SIT workgroup to Eliminate Disparities is seeking to address issue across state agencies</p>

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10	Lifelong connections and permanency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that children and youth of all ages are reunified as soon as possible with their birth families; if this is not possible, ensuring that these children and youth are adopted, have legal guardians, or have lifelong connections to caring, committed adults. 	Section 16540(m) <i>Coordinating available services for former foster youth and improving outreach efforts to those youth and their families.</i>	Permanency issues associated with stability and re-entry to foster care is a likely PIP item. There is also an adoption related data measure on adoption for children in care for longer periods of time as well as a separate measure on permanency for children who have been in care for longer periods of time.	Older Youth Adoption project that resulted from AB 1808 enacted in 2006 California Permanency for Youth Project Permanency component of the 11 County pilot
11	Support for caregivers (includes relative caregivers, non-relative caregivers, and foster families) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that caregivers have access to the education, information, training, services and support they need to raise foster children and youth placed in their care. 	Section 16540(g) <i>Modifying program practices and court processes, rate structures, and other system changes needed to promote and support relative caregivers, family foster parents, therapeutic placements and other placements for children who cannot remain in the family home.</i>	A likely PIP item, particularly as this relates to recruitment and retention of caregivers	Implementation of AB 340 re: a pilot on resource family (foster family) assessments Family to Family Initiative
12	Family-driven, youth guided care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging families and youth in the planning, development, implementation and evaluation of services and supports at the individual, program, and system levels. 	Section 16450(i) <i>Developing systemic methods for obtaining policy recommendations from foster youth about the effectiveness and quality of program services and judicial processes, and ensuring that the interests of foster youth are adequately addressed in all policy development</i>	Improving "family engagement" will likely become a PIP item; CYC serves to inform/influence the Administration, Legislature, and counties on behalf of youth	Family to Family Initiative Stuart Foundation grant to CWC for foster youth engagement
13	Oversight of implementation of existing laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing the timeliness and consistency of the implementation of legislative enactments in the child welfare and foster care programs and the courts. 	Section 16540(j) <i>Implementing legislative enactments in the child welfare and foster care programs and the courts, and reporting to the Legislature on the timeliness and consistency of the implementation.</i>	Not anticipated	AB 2216
14	Resource adequacy within counties , workloads, caseloads	Section 16540(k) <i>Monitoring the adequacy of resources necessary for the</i>	Resource and funding concerns were	N/A

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Examining the adequacy of resources necessary for the implementation of existing programs and court processes and the prioritization of program and judicial responsibilities.</i> 	implementation of existing programs and court processes, and the prioritization of program and judicial responsibilities.	expressed throughout the CFSR stakeholder interview process; uncertain whether this will be specifically addressed in Fed port.	
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15	Best/promising practices to scale statewide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>promoting consistent program and judicial excellence across counties to the greatest extent possible while recognizing the demographic, geographic and financial differences among counties and to increase the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of program services and judicial processes delivered to children, youth and families who would benefit from integrated multi-agency services to achieve better outcomes.</i> 	<p><u>Section 16540(b)</u> <i>Increasing the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of program services and judicial processes delivered to children, youth, and families who would benefit from integrated multiagency services to achieve better outcomes for these children, youth and families.</i></p> <p><u>Section 16540 (c)</u> <i>Promoting consistent program and judicial excellence across counties to the greatest extent possible while recognizing the demographic, geographic, and financial differences among the counties.</i></p>	A likely PIP item, particularly to address inconsistent array and availability of services	Family to Family Kinship Support Services Program Dependency Drug Courts Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (PHNs) Differential Response Wraparound California Connected by 25 Initiative California Permanency for Youth Project The Gateway Project
16	Improvement/enhancement of child well being <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ensuring that child well being outcomes are met.</i> 		N/A Child well-being is one of the three broad CFSR areas, along with safety and permanency	Safety team (three CFSD staff) to provide TA to counties
The following three issues were not listed by the Council but are required reporting areas for AB 2216				
17	Effective collaboration on Title IV-E, program improvement plans, and court improvement plans	<u>Section 16540(e)</u> Ensuring that all state Title IV-E plans, program improvement plans, and court improvement plans demonstrate effective collaboration between public agencies and the courts.	Indirectly; federal expectation that these plans (and the Title IV-B Plan) seek common goals of improving CWS outcomes	
18	Policy recommendations to improve collaboration between public agencies and	<u>Section 16540(f)</u> Assisting the Secretary of California Health and Human	Feds recognized the CWC structure as a	

	the courts	Services and the Chief Justice in formulating policies for the effective collaboration between public agencies and the courts.	strength in the recent CFSR Onsite Review	
19	Strengthening/increasing independence/authority of foster care ombudsman	Section 16540(l) Strengthening and increasing the independence and authority of the foster care ombudsman.	Not anticipated	